
OAHE CHAPEL NEWS

Summer 2009

Newsletter of the Oahe Chapel Preservation Society

Pierre, SD

Summer Events Held in Historic Oahe Chapel

Originally part of the Oahe Mission established by Congregationalist missionaries, the Oahe Chapel is now owned by the South Dakota State Historical Society. It is managed by the Oahe Chapel Preservation Society (OCPS), a not-for-profit group that oversees the maintenance and preservation of the Chapel. Although it is no longer used on a daily basis, various churches in the Pierre/Ft. Pierre area gather there for Sunday services at 8:00 a.m. from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend. The Chapel is also available for rent year round. This year, eight area churches hosted Sunday services, and two couples were married in the Chapel. In addition, Tour de Kota riders stopped at the Chapel in June as they pedaled across the state. Those who participate in the events at the Chapel enjoy its unique history and scenic location. If you have never joined us for an event, mark your calendar for next summer's Sunday services, or call the South Dakota State Historical Society today to find out how to rent the Chapel. We would love to see you there! ❖



Worshippers sing hymns during the First United Methodist Church service on August 16, 2009. Photo courtesy of Pastor Jenny Hallenbeck, First United Methodist Church.

Oahe Chapel to Host Window Restoration Workshop

The Oahe Chapel Preservation Society (OCPS) is excited to announce that author, teacher, and nationally-known old house expert Bob Yapp will host a window restoration workshop at the Chapel in May 2010. The workshop will be held over a three-day period and will offer intensive, hands-on training for workshop participants. The intent of the workshop is to teach students how to repair historic wood windows while restoring the windows that are currently in the Chapel. Kate Nelson, Vice President of OCPS, said: "We are thrilled to have an expert like Mr. Yapp come to Pierre to teach this workshop, because it means we can save the old wood windows in the Chapel. They are an important historic feature, and we are excited to learn how to take proper care of them. We are also grateful to the South Dakota State Historical Society for providing funding for this important workshop."

Workshop details are currently being planned. If you are interested in learning more, please contact the South Dakota State Historical Society at (605) 773-3458. Participants must be able to attend all three days of the workshop, and spaces are limited. Don't miss your chance to provide some hands-on help! ❖

RENT THE CHAPEL

Call now to reserve the Oahe Chapel for your wedding, church service, family reunion, or other special event! The Chapel is available for rent year round. The cost to rent the facility is \$50, and members of the Oahe Chapel Preservation Society are eligible to rent the facility for a reduced rate of \$35. To learn more, contact the South Dakota State Historical Society at (605) 773-3458. ❖

Tour de Kota Stops at Chapel

In June 2009, OCPS welcomed a number of cyclists on the annual Tour de Kota ride across South Dakota. The last leg of this year's route led the riders from Pierre to Gettysburg, and many riders took advantage of a stop at the Oahe Chapel and Corps of Engineers Visitors Center at the Oahe Dam. Members of OCPS were on site to give tours and talk about the history of the chapel with the visitors, who came from several states and even from Europe. Positive feedback was received from all riders, and some cyclists even donated to the OCPS for the continued maintenance of the chapel. Thanks to the OCPS members who donated their time to meet with riders, and to the riders who stopped to learn more about the chapel! Congratulations on a great ride! ❖



OCPS Continues Preservation Work

You can support the work of the Society!

Over the years, the Oahe Chapel Preservation Society (OCPS) has continued in its mission to maintain and preserve the chapel for the enjoyment of the public. To that end, the OCPS has undertaken a number of maintenance projects, including stabilizing the foundation, leveling and reinforcing the floor, repairing and replacing the siding, and repairing the bell tower. During the summer of 2009, the siding and windows at the chapel were repainted after a 2008 storm took a toll on the paint job. In May 2010, OCPS will welcome historic preservation consultant Bob Yapp as he leads a window restoration workshop at the chapel (see page 1 for more information). Projects such as these would not be possible without the generous support of our members. You can help us tackle important maintenance projects like these by sending your donation today. A **membership form** is located below, or you can give a one-time gift of any amount. Donations to the Oahe Chapel Preservation Society are tax deductible where allowed by law. Thank you for your continuing support! ❖

OAHE CHAPEL PRESERVATION SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Oahe Chapel Preservation Society Membership Form

Membership investment is for one year. Members will receive the annual Oahe Chapel News to keep up-to-date with current projects at the Oahe Chapel. Members are also eligible to rent the chapel at a reduced rate of \$35. Donations are tax deductible where allowed by law.

Please detach this form and mail with check to:
Oahe Chapel Preservation Society, PO Box 7201, Pierre, SD 57501.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS (optional): _____

Check one:

- | | | |
|------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Membership | \$500.00 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron Membership | \$100.00 | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership | \$15.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed is my one-time gift of \$_____ |